

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT

SUBJECT Background of the Rajk Case

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Attached is

the background story of the Rajk case. Laszlo Rajk's personal background and career, the circumstances leading to the deposition and trial, the trial itself, and the eventual rehabilitation of persons connected with Rajk.

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The RAJK Case.Who was RAJK Laszlo?

He came from a Saxon (German) family of Transylvania. He had two brothers.

His original name; REICH.

Graduated from high school, went to the university, and there got acquainted with communist ideas. As a university student (at Budapest) came into conflict with the police of that time. Although with difficulty, he finished his studies at the university. He obtained a professor's diploma.

What drove him into the communist camp?

Simply this, he saw that in Hungary at that time (in the years of the 1930's) only a baron, a count, a prince, a noble, or similar origin individual counted as a man. He also saw that Hungary already stepped into the <sup>line</sup> row of the followers of Nazism.

RAJK fought already at home against the idea (of Nazism) but with not much success. Around this time, there were already great contrasts in the RAJK family. His brother was completely in favor of the Nazi ideology and has glorified Nazism. The connection between the two brothers cooled off already at this time.

SALLAI Imre, FURST Sandor, and KILIAN Zoltan were the best friends of RAJK in this era. They gave him the advice that as a professor it would be appropriate if he would see the world. He had no money for traveling. The Spanish civil war came in proper time, RAJK enlisted in it for adventure and to see the world. His other reason that he wanted to fight against the Nazism. RAJK's brother was an active Nazi (arrow-cross) at this time already and knew that his brother Laszlo went to fight for the cause—but he was not willing to do this on the Nazi side.

The <sup>shaped</sup> ~~After the~~ experiences in Spain formed a convinced communist of RAJK who before has not been completely communist in his belief.

What was his role in Spain?

The various nationality party leaders living in the Soviet Union tried to attain

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the greatest possible results in the Spanish civil war, in the interest of their own popularisation. The Hungarian detachment has been named after RAKOSI Matyas, and has been well provided with arms. The young RAJK arriving from Hungary has been received with great enthusiasm and the commander of the Hungarian brigade ZALKA Mate immediately detailed RAJK to his side and here RAJK made a close friendship with MUNICH Ferenc Dr. the political comisar of the brigade. (Munich became captain general of the Budapest police after 1945, and at present he is Hungarian ambassador at Moscow.) First, MUNICH nominated RAJK as cell-trustee then later he received larger and larger political roles. General ZALKA also liked the good appearance, brave, young Hungarian professor, however he was somewhat reserved toward RAJK. As<sup>a</sup> matter of fact RAJK's carrier in Spain began after the death of general ZALKA. At that time, the staff of the brigade has been relieved and ~~the~~ in the new staff RAJK already had a serious, leading role. Even <sup>at</sup> ~~an~~ this time he participated in the fights as political comisar and filled this post until the end of the civil war.

(RAJK Laszlo himself related the above data after 1945 and therefore, they could be accepted as true.) Here too, he used his illegal name (covername); KIRGIZ.

Who was general ZALKA?

After the defeat of the 1919 revolution many Hungarians escaped abroad. One member of the Mateszalka directorium (local soviet) -Mateszalka is a small city about 30-40 Kilometers from Nyiregyhaza- also took the flight. His name, even today, is unknown in Hungary [redacted] This man emerged in the Soviet Union and under the name of ZALKA Mate (the city's name transposed Mate-szalka) did some writings. The Hungarian communists living in Moscow designated him as commander of the Hungarian brigade operating in the Spanish civil war and he served there under the names of ZALKA Mate and general LUKACS. His death is a mystery even today. The communists themselves eliminated him. [redacted]

[redacted] RAJK Laszlo, already in 1945, [redacted]

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demanded that the circumstances of the death of general ZALKA should be investigated. However, ~~However~~, RAKOSI did not want to hear about it at all. RAKOSI said "Let him rest in peace, his memory should not be disturbed." Nevertheless, RAJK repeatedly asked the matter to be put on the agenda.

It is interesting that general ZALKA was popular not only among the fighters of the international brigade's soldiers but his fame was on the rise even in Moscow. RAKOSI was jealous at ZALKA. Therefore, it could be taken as certain that his faithfuls and followers (RAKOSI's) silenced him (ZALKA). During the RAJK process every veteran of the Spanish civil war who had any public position in Hungary has been disturbed (by the authorities) but only MUNICH Ferenc was left out

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The RAKOSI-RAJK controversy started here.

What did RAJK Laszlo do after the Spanish civil war?

The following part is also in its greater part RAJK's own relations;

He had to escape from Spain, went to France, was interned there. Under romantic later circumstances he succeeded returning to Hungary. Here he barely rested when the party ordered him to Czechoslovakia. At Zsolna (Zilina) or at Fulek (Filakovo) he attended party schools and after graduation he spent a shorter time at Moscow. This trip of his, was organized by the president of the KEB (Kozponti Ellenorzo Bizottsag- Central Control Board or Commission) KIS Karoly. Every detail was taken care of, he had to tell to his circle of friends that he will be in various Hungarian cities. From two cities he sent postcards to his acquaintances. The cards were written before his departure and KISS Karoly provided of their mailing.

When he again came back to Hungary, his role and prestige in the party grew and grew almost from one day to the other. Several times he had trouble with the police, was taken into custody unnumbered times, interned, put under police surveillance, etc. However, at no occasion did he receive a larger, longer sentence.

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Around this time, he made the acquaintance of a university student FOLDI Julia, and who later became his wife, (who looked up to RAJK as to a demigod. They lived in common law marriage.

RAJK's role in the resistance movement.

It has to be stated as a fact that from the beginning of 1943 RAJK led an active fight against nazism. Already at this time RAJK is with KADAR Janos the leader of the Communist Party of Hungary. Perhaps it might be even stated that already he was the first person (of the party). Beginning from this time he was in close friendship with PETER Gabor who later became the head of the AVH.

[redacted] in 1944 PETER Gabor, KADAR Janos, and RAJK Laszlo were hidden at the same place from the Germans. The place was the apartment of BABITS Antal, university professor, at the Deak Ferenc square, where a room has been walled in (and separated from the apartment) and the trio lived there. [redacted]

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[redacted] One might say, that at this time PETER and RAJK were the best of friends, in fact they spinned the yarn of a dream that they will co-operate.

RAJK actually came into contact with the Hungarian counter-intelligence service <sup>which</sup> ~~who~~ continued <sup>its</sup> ~~their~~ fight against the communists. This happened ~~at the~~ in October 1944. Governor HORTHY already saw that the fight has been lost and wanted to save his position (power) somehow and first turned to the British for help, ~~and by the~~ <sup>but</sup> ~~reason that~~ the British directed him to the Soviets. Horthy then, with a bitter after-taste (in his mouth), looked for connections to the underground, leftist elements. This job was trusted to UJSZASZY Istvan, major-general, head of the intelligence and counter-intelligence departments. In October 1944 when the Germans were looking for UJSZASZY also- UJSZASZY contacted RAJK, as the leader of the underground communist organisation. RAJK asked for arms and munitions, and UJSZASZY promised both. These meetings took place at the infamous Hadik Barracks (the counter-intelligence barracks), where RAJK and his former pursuer or persecutor even contracted an alliance. However this alliance could not be

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followed through because it has been betrayed to the Germans. The Germans raided the whole organisation and captured RAJK. First, he was taken to the Margaret Boulevard military prison, then to Sopronkohida and finally to Germany. The liberation reached him in Germany and he returned to Hungary immediately.

After the 15 of October 1944, RAJK's brother became "Arrow cross" (Hungarian Nazi) secretary of state. ~~When his case came up before the military court~~  
When RAJK Laszlo's case came up, charged with treason, before the military court - the judge has been DOMINICS Vilmos, military judge major - RAJK's brother appeared and participated in the trial in "Arrow Cross" uniform as secretary of state. [REDACTED]

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What did RAJK Laszlo do after 1945?

Returning from German deportation RAJK naturally <sup>contacted</sup> ~~contacted~~ the party immediately. He was received with outburst of joy and everybody - those who participated in the movement in Hungary - saw the leader in him. However, he was not received with the greatest kindness by the Moscovites.

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The anti-semitism was awakened in RAJK at the first time in this period. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REVAY, GERO, and

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FARKAS strongly attacked RAJK, saying that the anti-Semite period is over in Hungary.

RAJK argued, that yes, this is true, but this has been indoctrinated in the Hungarian people and now this cannot be <sup>in the party</sup> ~~undone~~ without a transitory period.

RAKOSI closed the discussion that communism does not know denominations, does not know religion. This is how the REVAY, FARKAS against RAJK struggle started.

GERO, knowing the situation in Hungary, retreated on this ground.

RAJK Laszlo received a very important role in the party machinery. He, beginning from the first minute subordinated himself to the will of the leadership, he never formed frattions with his former old faithfuls, in fact he became one of strogest

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handed leaders in the party.

The next encounter happened in the matter of the party insignia. This also has been related by RAJK Laszlo himself.

In 1945 every party had made a badge for itself. The communists used a flag with the letters MKP (Magyar Kommunista Part/-Hungarian Communist Party). The crawling worm-shape flag was red in color, and RAJK mentioned that the national colors should be used. He was howled down(booed down). RAJK did not leave the case rest and carried the matter to the party leadership which justified him. A few months later the communist used the national colors badge. Later this incident has been reproached to RAJK by FARKAS Mihaly.

#### How RAJK became minister?

After the 1945 fall elections the communists fought with fire and sword for the portfolio of the minister of interior that until that time has been in the hands of the fellow traveler peasant party. (~~The minister~~ ERDEI Ferenc has been the minister, who is today the deputy president of the council of ministers.) The majority party, the small landholders did not want to release this position from their hands. There was a danger present that the coalition government will collapse, when the small landholder party had to give in to Soviet pressure. NAGY Imre became the minister of interior but from communist point of view he ~~he~~ did not prove himself to be energetic enough, and soon he was relieved and his position filled with RAJK Laszlo, member of the Political Committee, 25X1  
This move has been motivated in the party at that time <sup>by saying</sup> that such a man is necessary 25X1  
(for this job) who is acquainted with the former Hungarian police and also knows the Hungarian ~~situation~~ conditions.

At this time, the rule of the terror began in Hungary.



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First RAJK tried to place his own men into the key-positions, this he did with the knowledge of the party, and the placed men were naturally all communists. His political secretary of state, who had the power in his hands, was a former lawyer from Szeged, SZEKENYI Endre, the two chiefs of the police section were: EKES Istvan, lieutenant colonel, and MARSCHALL Laszlo, colonel. RAJK's friendship with MARSCHALL dates back from France. MARSCHALL was the chief director of the police instruction matters. His press department was headed by CSERESNYES Sandor a former fighting comrade of his from Spain.

The organisation of the internat<sup>ment</sup>ing (concentration) camps, the nightly disappearances, the unlawful arrests, the atrocities of the AVH, etc. all are connected with his name. Between 1946 and 1948 he was more hated (despised) and feared than RAKOSI. He prepared the case of the "Hungarian Community" that led to the liquidation of the small landholders party. He instituted the surveillance of the legations. Never, has so many men been in jail in Hungary than in this time.

During his trial, he was charged that he prevented the formation of party organisation at the police department - the truth is that it was he, RAJK who ordered it.

His popularity was very great in the party. He was held as the greatest might, who organized such an armed force for the party that could be relied upon at any time. He was <sup>the</sup>conceiver of for instance of the idea of the "GANZ" ship~~yard~~-yard fire that <sup>the</sup>gave pretexts to arrest of rightist individuals. At the same time together with PETER Gabor, he was the preparator of the Soviet military murders at the Octagon square which furnished the reasons to reinforce the AVH. His atrocities could be listed further. Only this much more, he started the collection of evidences against the social-democrats, and he started the fight against them.

What happened in the party?

What RAJK stated in 1945, that anti-Semitism has to be calculated with, has been accepted now even by the leaders of the party. Therefore, they (the leaders) were compelled to give larger and larger share of the leadership to the former leaders

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of communists in Hungary (to those who did not come from Moscow). This they were compelled to do, partly to divert (stem) anti-semitism, partly to reward those former leaders as acknowledgment of their past work, and finally because of the old workers actual capability and merit.

This way RAJK Laszlo and KADAR Janos received ever larger role in the party machinery and this was not regarded upon favorably by the Moscovites. The Moscovites tried to trip up them but could not succeed.

There was a dramatic clash between RAJK and FARKAS in 1947. The reason was furnished by the case of RAJK's brother who was arrested by the police under the direction of RAJK and accused by crimes committed during the Nazism. FARKAS Michael demanded the hushing up of the affair and the release of the brother. FARKAS argued that the brother did not commit murder and if the arrest of the brother of the minister of interior <sup>is published</sup> ~~appears~~ in the press, the matter will have a very repulsive effect. Finally FARKAS won the argument.

When RAKOSI also saw how well RAJK and PETER Gabor understand each other, and that all power is in their hands, and the Russians also trust them, RAKOSI tried to incite them against each other. (<sup>U</sup>PSKIN, Soviet minister is in Berlin now.) However, he did not succeed. Among the communists of the land, RAJK was ~~more~~ already more popular than RAKOSI. RAJK was less popular in the parliament and in public (bourgeois) life, because he was repeatedly mentioned as the director of the communist terror. Therefore RAKOSI silenced him. The main prompters of this job: FARKAS Michael and REVAY Joseph. They made minister of foreign affairs of him and his men in the ministry of interior were transferred to other positions. This way, SZEKENYI Endre was nominated secretary of state of the prime ministry, SZENTIVANYI Joseph was fired, Colonel MARSCHALL became editor in chief of the "Nepsport", Lieutenant colonel KORONDY and TOKES Otto were transferred to some other jobs, and CSERESNYES Sandor was placed at the "Esti Budapest" paper, etc.

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The greatest crime of RAJK.

In the parliament the communists were in the minority and would have liked to disperse the majority holding small landowners party and therefore during the DINNYES government's rule enforced the new elections.

This was directed by RAJK Laszlo, minister of interior. His name is connected with the falsification of the elections(ballots). The so-called "Blue slips" were used on his initiative. Nevertheless, the communist party could not obtain decisive majority this way either.

The small landowners did not dare to take more energetic steps against this. There was only one man who stood up (made a stand) RIESZ Istvan, the social-democrat minister of Justice, who resigned at that time for this reason. (Later this became his doom.) Another great crime of RAJK, that during the first elections, he unlawfully had have detained -after the elections- the directors of the election for the small landholders and civil (bourgeois) parties and extradited GYULAI Laszlo, small landholder party representative, and FILLER Laszlo representative to the Russians. RAJK furnished the alleged material also for the arrest of KOVACS Bela, secretary general of the small landholders party.

According to the codified law RAJK's deeds surpassed the measure for which the heaviest sentence can be imposed (pronounced) in a free world.

RAJK and the Titoism.

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During RAJK's ministership of the interior the communist ministers and secretaries of states constantly mentioned Tito as their ideal model. The <sup>me</sup> ~~was~~ only one ~~single~~ <sup>single</sup> man who did not participate in this apeing; RAJK Laszlo.

Because of ~~making~~ the Tito visit a great circus was made in Hungary. Policemen were hid even in the sewers, and even on house tops. The head of the Tito security service (his name starts with the letter M.) came to Hungary and he organised the protection. RAJK protested against this, but upon RAKOSI's instructions, he had to yield.

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Therefore, this way the whole AVH and the economy police (which at that time still has existed, as the second confidential organ.) provided protection for Tito's security.

RAKOSI, REVAI, and FARKAS negotiated the most with Tito. Besides them, Tito conferred with NOGRADI Sandor also. RAJK contacted him (Tito) just as the other ministers and leading politicians did.

When the South-Slavs <sup>(living in Hungary)</sup> had to be delivered to Tito, who for this, accepted that he will intervene at GOTTWALD for the easing of deportation of Hungarians, RAJK acted in the matter, gave permission, upon the instruction of the party, but the execution was performed by security organs who arrived from Yugoslavia. They made the arrests in the company of a Hungarian policeman. RAJK did not like this and raised his voice. The party declined him.

A Hungarian state security group (AVH group) <sup>went</sup> ~~went~~ to Yugoslavia to study the the working system there. As a miracle of miracles ~~that~~ they were exactly the same ones who were arrested that they conducted the anti-Tito campaign, namely: PETER Gabor, DECSY Gyula, TIMAR Istvan, etc. RAJK Laszlo did not go out, the persons (to go) were selected (designated) by the party and at the meeting of the political committee the motion was proposed by FARKAS Michael, who was the case worker (referent) of the matter.

At the Belgrade visit of the Hungarian government delegation REVAY and FARKAS were the first ones in line to ask for Tito's favors - and not RAJK.

#### How did the liquidation start?

When RAJK Laszlo was removed from the head of the ministry of interior, the public opinion of the country breathed a little more freely. Everybody believed that no worse, no more wicked, no more cruel a person could replace him.

RAJK did not stir up too much water in the ministry of foreign affairs. He tackled party work and in the secretariat he was already RAKOSI's secretary, his power and influence was greater than that of GERO, REVAY, or FARKAS. These three were the

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ones who incited RAKOSI against RAJK, saying that RAJK ~~is~~ strives for his <sup>power.</sup> place. RAKOSI turned to Moscow for help.

It is a historical fact that at this time <sup>there were</sup> ~~three~~ personalities ~~were~~ in Hungary: VARGA Jenó, who is an expert ~~of~~ the Kreml, in the first place, in economic problems, SOSLOV, who is ~~the~~ in charge of the South-East-European desk of the party center at Moscow, and even KAGANOVICH has been in Hungary.

GOBBI Hilda, actress, member of the National Theater, who co-operated with PETER Gabor and RAJK in the underground movement, related that PETER Gabor received a commission

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Question: What is the task?

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Gobbi: In a day or two everybody will know it.

A couple of days later it came out that RAJK Laszlo has been detained. At the council elections he was still nominated as the second or third man.

Previously, there were rumors circulated <sup>ing</sup> in the city that several leading communists were arrested but nobody knew against whom the game was played.

MARSCHALL Laszlo, colonel has been liquidated first, he had an apartment at No. 63 Bartók Bela street (the house number is not certain). When MARSCHALL was relieved of his post at the police, the party put him in the job of the editor in chief of the "Nepsport" sport paper. He has been at this job fairly long time, several months. Kadar István, the driver of the car of the newspaper, carried him (drove him) often to RAJK Laszlo and MAROSAN György and also called for him every morning around 9 o'clock. On this day too, when <sup>the driver</sup> he arrived to the house and went up to the apartment two men received him. Two AVH men. They identified him (asked for his papers) and <sup>the AVH men</sup> then let him go. ~~They~~ told the driver that MARSCHALL will go to the editorial offices later, he just had some important thing to take care of. The AVH men let the driver <sup>Kadar</sup> enter only to the hall.

The next day or two days later Kadar went to the house - one of his friends lived there, and this friend told Kadar that on that day at 4 O'clock in the morning

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the house door bell rang. A few people went up to the MARSCHALL apartment and then he heard running and shooting. MARSCHALL has been killed by shot when escaping.

His wife and child have been resettled in Eger. For days he did not go to the offices of the paper, from where they called up RAJK. They received the answer: "I have not seen him for days."

~~His wife and small child~~

The excitements of the MARSCHALL case have not been subsided yet when CSERESNYES Sandor, co-worker of the "ESTI Budapest" paper has been detained. CSERESNYES was the fighting comrade of RAJK in Span. The events followed quickly now, in two-three days SZEKENYI Endre, KORONDY, Colonel OSZKO, and a whole bunch of high rank police officers were detained. Then RAJK's seizure also followed. He went to the party central to some meeting and when he left the building his car has not taken him home but to the AVH building to the No.60. Andrássy street.

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His family: FOLDI Julia, -his wife, who at that time was the mother of one or two children, was the president of the Federation of the Democratic Hungarian Women, - has disappeared immediately from the Hungarian public life.

#### Who were the members of the Staff?

First the Hungarian Radio broadcasted the case, and expounded the charges against RAJK and his companions. GOBBI Hilda received the role to explain one of the indictments. PETER Gabor convinced her to do this, because some members (of the accusers) wanted to involve her also in the case. As a proof that she had no connection at all with them (with the accused persons) she had to accept this role.

the whole case, every move has been built

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like a strategy of a general staff

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the members of the "general

staff" were: RAKOSI Matyas, REVAY Joseph, GERO Erno, FARKAS Michael, KADAR Janos, minister of interior and some Soviet general. The SUSLOVs approved the case.

The execution of preparation of the case was performed by PETER Gabor, DECSY Gyula, TIMAR Istvan AVH officers, REVESZ Geza, the head of the military political section and his men. The legal preparation waited for the jurists (lawyers) MOLNAR Erik, and KADAR Miklos, which then was transformed into the official bill of accusation by ALAPY Gyula.

Later it became clear that the case - in Hungary - was directed in this order: RAKOSI, FARKAS, and REVAY. REVAY Joseph gave the instructions to the press; keep up, keep up the case. The guarding of RAJK and his companions was trusted to PRINCZ Gyula, AVH. major at that time, and his men.

To see the case clearly, it is necessary to explain the following: The State Security Section -because at that time it was only a section of the police- belonged under the jurisdiction of the minister of interior. At first PETER Gabor reported weekly not only to minister RAJK, but also to the secretary of state DULLIN. It is true tho that he reported but did not say or tell anything to uncle DULLIN. Before the beginning of the RAJK case, the AVH has been taken out from under the jurisdiction of the minister of interior and placed under direct supervision of the council of ministers. Therefore at the time of the preparation of the RAJK case as a matter of fact RAKOSI was already the highest director of the AVH. (State Security Agency).

The ~~process~~ court process of the RAJK case and the execution.

[trial]

At the court process RAJK and his co-defendants confessed like actors of a well rehearsed play. They related everything exactly like a timetable. Some individual

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parts of the broadcasts were recorded at the dress rehearsals and not at the court process. It is customary in the communist world that in the so-called big cases "dress rehearsals" (chief rehearsals) are held. This is necessary, so that the individual - his nervous system undermined and weakened - should give to the unknown judges, to the unknown and unaccustomed voices the same answer that he gave to the accustomed one - the so-called trainer (driller).

It is customary in the communist world that ~~after~~<sup>when</sup> the investigation has been finished, the drilling of the accused ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~<sup>begins.</sup> They prepare the bill of accusation and then they play court process with the accused. This terrible play goes on for months if necessary. Previously, the will of the accused is subdued, dulled, he cannot think about anything else but what he has been told to think. It is very difficult to fall out of this role. Please, do observe that the president makes the bulk of the questions to the accused from his notes, but the accused is not allowed to use notes.

At the court process RAJK was broken (in spirit) but only to the degree as the ~~other~~ accused of other great cases. His eyes also had a glazed look, he avoided the light, and if by chance he fell out of the <sup>beam of</sup> light ~~xxxxxx~~ just for a moment, his bearing immediately became tottering. His voice was only slightly veiled. In the meantime he only received <sup>one or two</sup> light effects, in the recess periods. These light effects could make the already weakened nerve centers completely ineffectual and therefore JANKO, president of the court council did not have to strain himself at the court process. After the termination of the court sessions the accused were taken out through the Baross street gate, shoved into waiting cars and returned to the AVH center.

The court sessions could be entered only with tickets. The acquaintances or relatives of the accused could not get tickets even by chance.

The pronouncing of the sentence was very interesting; ~~it~~<sup>the relief</sup> could almost be seen on <sup>the accused</sup> each of them that finally the "circus" is over. They left the courtroom in much livelier steps than they entered it.



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At the execution, RAJK Laszlo died without a word. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Previously RAJK wrote a letter, probably to his family. His hair that was almost free of grey at the time of his arrest, it was strongly grey now. He gave the impression under the gallows as one who does not know what is happening to him.

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[REDACTED] at the execution of PALFY-OSZTERREICHER Gyorgy, lieutenant general.

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[REDACTED] repeated even in the last moment: I am innocent, Justice shall prevail. My rivals brought me here.

(NOGRADY Sandor was the part-rival of PALFY, and the other part-rival was PETER Gabor and his office - in the intelligence and counter intelligence work. Namely the intelligence work was performed abroad at that time by the military political section, and this section did not want to release the work to another office or agency. PETER Gabor's (PETER and His men) took away the work with force, and therefore PETER Gabor's active role in the RAJK matter really started when upon his proposal or upon higher instructions PALFY-O. Gyorgy has been involved in the case.

Some momentums worthy of attention/

Moscow knew everything, and everything happened on Moscow's direction - the best example for this that NEMETH Dezso (the first, the Christian name is not certain) the Hungarian military attache at Moscow, has also been involved in the case. Although NEMETH was a faithful communist, in the interest of the cause it was necessary that the threads of the conspiracy should reach even to Moscow, he was executed. He was presented (to the court) from Moscow by Soviet NKWD officers.

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The Yugoslavs (living in Hungary) had a communist representative in the Hungarian parliament. ~~By~~ His name: ROB, Anton. He somehow found out that a warrant of arrest has been issued against him, and he succeeded escaping. He went over to Yugoslavia and lives there even today. Allegedly one of the AVH officers "wired" <sup>to</sup> him.

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A long investigation has been conducted to find out who was the reminder (the informant) [redacted]

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[redacted] the Yugoslav diplomat, BOAROV, who was also a defendant in the RAJK case, has been convinced to a great extent by RAJK Laszlo to ask for political asylum from Hungary, to not to return to Yugoslavia and turn his back to Tito. What was the result; BOAROV together with RAJK has been placed on the bench of the accused. (The BOAROV name is not certain,

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The anti-Tito affair started in Hungary with a murder. At the Veres Palne street there was a sort of an "internate" (a fraternity or student boarding house) of Yugoslavian youth in Hungary. The leader of this youth has been murdered. The murder has been committed by the AVH and then the whole matter was blamed on the Yugoslav legation. [redacted] RAJK had the matter executed, and he with PETER Gabor directed the whole affair, and also FARKAS minister Michael, the minister of defense at that time.

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[redacted] Jews had to be compromised in the matter and not only Christians. Namely, SZONYI Dr. who was the leader of the cadre section of the party, lived in Switzerland during the II. world war, and returned to Hungary with his small group from there in 1945. He was of Jewish origin.

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The RAJK Case (the <sup>the trial</sup> process) had one part that has been conducted behind strictly closed doors. [redacted] All that seeped out from there was, that OLT Karoly was one of the witnesses of the prosecution, who at this time was already a minister. For a while, after SZONYI, OLT was the leader of the

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cadre section at the center of the party. There was a friendship of a decade between RAJK and OLT that dated back from their university years. OLT was the star witness of the prosecution that RAJK could be executed.

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Rehabilitation begins.

There were very many people detained, sentenced, and executed in the RAJK case. According to well informed circles only about 10-20 percent of the detained persons had public trials.

At one time the RAJK case was connected with the KADAR Janos case, who was detained as active minister of interior, and had exactly similar position in party machinery as RAJK. What the real truth is in this matter is still very obscure even today.

The rehabilitation began in the NAGY Imre era. After ~~the~~ his memorial speech of 1953 the accused of the RAJK case emerged from the prisons one by one. JAVOR Ivan Dr., Colonel, president of the honved(military) court, who got involved in the RAJK-KADAR case and received 15 years jail sentence (  he previously pronounced sentence in the PALFY-OSZTERREICHER process) related that he was kept in the Collective jail (a prison in the Kobanya district of Budapest where sentenced persons were collected until transports were formed to different jails and prisons) when his case came up for revision. A commission under the leadership of a Soviet general appeared in the prison, and interrogated him in detail. They (the members of the commission) were very polite toward him, offered cigarettes, etc. They did the same with several of his inmates. After this nothing happened for weeks, perhaps for months. One nice ~~the~~ day the warden called Javor and the following conversation took place;

The warden(commander of the prison): Comrade JAVOR, the comrade, the minister of Justice ordered extraordinarily that your punishment should be interrupted immediately. You are free, please report tomorrow to comrade SZABO, lieutenant general, at the ministry of defense.

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JAVOR: What shall I do now at night. I have no clothes, have no money, and cannot call up(inform) anybody.....

Commander: We shall provide clothes right away.... I will give you a loan of 100 forints,...you are worth a hundred forints by me.... we shall call a taxi. However you must leave the prison within an hour.

And so it happened, they provided clothes for JAVOR, and then in the most polite form let him go on his way.

The next day at the ministry of defense, SZABO Istvan, lieutenant colonel received JAVOR, gave him 10.000 forints minute-help, and told him that his apartment <sup>the matter of</sup> ~~case~~ <sup>matter</sup> and his employment will be taken care of. Everything happened as foretold, they offered him to reenter the army, JAVOR refused. The ministry obtained a job for him at the Gheorghiu Dej shipyard. His membership card was returned to him at the party center and the JONAS Endre council revised his case at the Pest County Court.

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In the treason case he was acquitted.

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HARASZTI Sandor, newspaperman, who is from SZabadka(Subotica,Yug), accused by espionage, was rehabilitated also. His membership card was returned to him, and he was employed by the "Béke es Szabadsag" (Peace and Liberty) weekly, became editor in chief and later was pensioned. HARASZTI complained that his pension inadequate, besides his pension he was also trusted with the lecturing (proof-reading) of the "Tarsadalmi Szemle"(Sociological Review" the ideological magazine of the party.

The accused of the RAJK-KADAR case came out (of jails) one after the other. KADAR Janos, former minister of interior, KALLAY Gyula, former minister of foreign affairs(after RAJK), LOSONCZI Geza, former secretary of state, DONATH Ferenc,

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former secretary of state, head of the former secretariat of RAKOSI, CSERESNYES Sandor, former press chief of RAJK, TOKES Otto, former personal secretary of RAJK, OSZKO Gyula, colonel, one man [redacted] who is the foster father of DOMOLKY Lidia woman epee world champion, SZEBENYI Andrea Dr. (the wife of SZEBENYI former secretary of state). BALABAN Peter - the bosom friend of SZONYI from Switzerland - RATH, AVH major, PARADI Istvan, former army major, BASCH Tibor, photoreporter, RADO Istvan, newspaper editor, etc. HELTAY Gyorgy & REX Joseph, former foreign ministry employees, UJHELYI Szilard, secretary of state, ERDOS Peter, newspaperman, etc.

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In 1954 according to the decision of the Central Committee of the Party of the Hungarian Workers, a committee was formed with the task to revise and investigate completely the files of the RAJK case.

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Before this committee could have started its work, the minister of Justice upon the instructions of the party central, ordered the immediate release of the still detained individuals.

Allegedly this committee had five members; [redacted]

[redacted] the members were; KISS Karoly, president of the Central Supervision Committee, as leader of this committee, APRO Antal, member of the political committee, SZALAY Bela, member of the political committee, KRISTOF Istvan, president of the revision committee of the party, and [redacted]

[redacted] the fifth member. This committee finished its work in a few months and a new book has been published about the RAJK case.

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It is a fact, that the material compiled by this committee has been set (for printing) at the SZikra printing press (Blaha Lujza square, Budapest) but has not been printed because the central of the party destroyed the whole (material). This happened in the early summer of 1955. In the Federation of Writers and at other places the publication has been demanded - as it has been announced by RAKOSI at the activa meeting.

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Allegedly the committee rehabilitated RAJK in the Tito matter, but sustained that he was an American spy, and besides a Trotzkyist. Allegedly RAKOSI insisted on this. [redacted]

One of the type setters said only

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that "The world turned upside down!"

At this same time another committee was formed inside of the Central Leadership with the task to find out, who could be made responsible(coupable) for the economic crisis of the country.

According to well informed circles, this committee ought to have branded in the first place GERO Erno <sup>who</sup> against the will of the Central Leadership forced through the exaggerated (extreeme) industrialization. He should have been brought to account as responsible for the Stalinvaros(Stalin<sup>city</sup>) matter, and also for the construction of the (Budapest) subway. The committee accomplished its work. A <sup>and</sup> <sup>has been</sup> several hundreds of pages minutes has been prepared - (the final conclusion drawn). However the political committee prevented publication of this report also. Both matters are in connection with the fact that the fight between RAKOSI ~~and~~ Matyas and GERO Erno on one side, and NAGY Imre on the other side, has been sharpened completely, and Moscow has not consented to the publication of the material.

[redacted] in the summer of 1955 Moscow has not consented(agreed) to the exclusion and arrest of NAGY Imre either - which however, has been forced out from MOLOTOV by RAKOSI.

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NAGY Imre also has been at Moscow, he did not go there voluntarily, he has been summoned.

[redacted] RAKOSI wanted a new trial, with NAGY Imre as accused, Molotov proposed and helped this. - However HUSLOV refused (contradicted).

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Lightning(Blitz) report; who is where today?

The former accused of the RAJK case have been released, their situation as of November 1955 was the following. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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They were released from prison. They had to go back to their old working place, where they received 10.000-25.000 forints immediate help, and later another help of 20.000-100.000 forints. Their relocation problems (apartment, employment) have been taken care of by the old place of employment.(employer).

Almost all of them received their old membership cards from the party central. All of them were sent for 2-4 weeks recreation to Gallyateto, Matrahaza or to Holloko. Those, whose condition of health required more rest, received more vacation. All of them were placed in employments of their own selection.

RADO Istvan, the former editor of the first communist paper the "Neplap" (Peoples Sheet) that was published at Debrecen, later went to Pecs and there he was also editor in chief. He was the first one sentenced in the RAJK case.

After his release he was placed at the "Magyar Nemzet" paper as press-editor, after a few months he was transferred and now he is the collaborator of the "Szabadsag" weekly.

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CSERESNYES Sandor, participated in the civil war in Spain. After 1945 became RAJKS's press chief, and later newspaperman at the "Esti Budapest" paper. After his release, <sup>about</sup> in November 1955 he has not been placed yet. He wants to go back to the Radio or to the Press.

TOKES Otto, former personal secretary of RAJK. After his release he was placed immediately at the Capital <sup>Arbitrary</sup> ~~Arbitrary~~ Commission ( this is the organ judging and deciding in problem<sup>s</sup> arising between enterprises as to location, fines for delayed delivery, etc.) as council leader. His present income 1.800 forints.

LOSONCZI Geza, <sup>former</sup> secretary of state at the ministry of peoples education, at present member of the editorial committee of the "Magyar Nemzet" daily. In prison his lungs were completely destroyed. He was still an inmate of the Matrahaza <sup>tbc.</sup> Sanatorium in November 1955.

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BALABAN Peter, he was the confidential man of SZONYI Dr. the former leader of the cadre section. He lived in Switzerland during the II world war. At the time of his detention he used to work at the Hungarian Radio. At present he is an employee of the Corvina foreign language publishing company(Vaci street,Budapest). His salary is about 1.800 forints.

OSZKO Gyula, colonel, around the years of 1940 he was an officer of the gendarmery. As such,he joined the communists. At one time he directed the investigation against the communists, came into contact with them, and finally, he himself became a communist. In 1944, the treasury, the seals, and the more important papers of the party were hidden at OSZKO's apartment. He served at the ministry of interior, while RAJK was minister, as the head of the presidential section (each ministry had a main section called presidential section). After his detention he was sentenced for life. [redacted] he is now colonel of the AVH. 25X1

RATH, known as RATH the limp. [redacted] He was the 25X1  
sole Moscovite in the RAJK case. He received a sentence of 10 or 15 years. He used to work as political collaborator at the "Uj Szó"( New Word) the paper of the Red Army. After the paper was discontinued, he was transferred to the AVH as major. [redacted] 25X1

SZEBENYI Andrea, Dr. wife of the former secretary of state SZEBENYI Andor, who

together with RAJK really organized the Hungarian police and the AVH. He [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] used to be lawyer at Szeged before 1945. When RAJK has been relieved 25X1

as  
~~from~~ the head of the ministry of interior, SZEBENYI also was transferred to the prime ministry with the rank of secretary of state. He was detained there. He received a sentence of 10 years. He died in prison. He married his secretary who also has been in prison. She is today the legal councillor of a state enterprise, her salary is 2.000 forints. They have one child.



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BASCH Tibor, photoreporter, before his detainment he used to work at the "Szabad Nep" the central party paper. When released, he was placed at the "Szabad Fold" (Free Land) and from there was transferred to the Szabad Ifjusag (Free Youth). He has a family. His salary 2200 forints.

The wife of PALFY-OSZTERREICHER Gyorgy -before the husband was arrested - had a beauty salon at the Alkotmany street, Budapest. She has been interned for a while and then deported to the land. In the summer of 1955 she already lived <sup>again</sup> at Budapest and received a special grant(like pension).

RAJK, Mrs. Laszlo, FOLDI Julia, university graduate. When her husband has been detained, she was the general secretary ~~of~~ president of the Hungarian Women Democratic Federation. She had one or two children. Also, she reared two or three other orphans in her apartment. Her apartment and belongings have been taken away(confiscated) when the husband was detained. [REDACTED] 25X1

[REDACTED] 25X1  
In the summer of 1955 DOBI Istvan, state president related the following story: Mrs. RAJK has been rehabilitated. Retroactively she has received her husband's ministerial pension and she was employed at the Szabo Ervin Library(This is located at the Reviczky street). There she works under the name of Mrs. RETI, but in a few weeks she may use her own name also.

Matyas (RAKOSI) had the RAJK child brought to him, and asked the child;  
- Who is your father?

The RAJK child: I have no such.(I have no father).

RAKOSI: Yes,you have, the Party. The Party is your father.....

.....

Mrs. RAJK received her child, who until then have been placed and educated in one of the ~~institutions for~~ so-called fatherless-motherless children's home at Buda. RAKOSI asked the woman, to try and find a new life, to get married, because she

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as an old underground <sup>party</sup> worker should(must) understand that in politics "mistakes" just happen.

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In the summer of 1955 the body of RAJK Laszlo has been <sup>exhumed</sup> exhumated from the Rakos-keresztur cemetery, from among the unknown graves (the executed are buried with numbers). It was transferred to the Kerepesi street cemetery, and secretly reburied about 150-200 meters from the Kossuth mausoleum. On the cross it stands illegibly "R... Laszlo, lived..... Rest in Peace , true fighter....." There was fresh flower on the grave.

What happened to the caretakers of the case?

There was a rumor [redacted] that the Russian 25X1  
colonel or major general who from the Soviet side participated in the investigation of the RAJK case, committed suicide in his office (Roosevelt square).

The Hungarian investigating staff: Peter Gabor, DECSY Gyula, TIMAR Istvan, PAL Akos, PRINCZ Gyula, etc. have been detained and sentenced.

JANKO Peter, the deputy president of the supreme court, who conducted the trial, became silent at the end of the summer of 1955. According to some version he 25X1  
committed suicide, according to others the AVH eliminated him.

[redacted]

ALAPY Gyula, Dr. the prosecutor, head of the district attorney office of Budapest county has been still free in November 1955, but has been permanently followed (escorted) by two AVH officers, because he has received several "threatening letters that the Black Hand and the NEM (Nemzeti Ellenallasi Mozgalom- National Resistance 25X1  
Movement) will attempt on his life." [redacted]

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